

Ings?)^a sharp-idsaged, universally
renowned, shining
among men. Him they eondnct (to every
dwelling).

3. They contemplate three places of Ms
birth,—

one in the ocean, one in the heaven,
one in the
firmament; and, dividing the seasons of
the year,
for the benefit of earthly creatures, he
formed, in
regular succession, the eastern quarter.*

4. Which of you discerns the
hidden⁰ A&NI?

A son, he begets his mothers by
oblations.* The
germ of many (waters), he issues from
the ocean,⁶
mighty and wise, the recipient of
oblations.

fingers, which generate *Agni* through the air of
attrition, as an
embryo in the sticks. *Sdyana* gives both
interpretations.

^a *Yibhritram*, deposited in all creatures; that
is, in the
capacity of the digestiTe faculty, which is referred
to the action
of natural beat.

^b As submarine fire, *Agni* is born in the ocean;
as the sun,
in heaven,; and, as lightning, in the firmament. In
his character
of the siin, he may be said to be the distributor
of time and
space,—regulating the seasons, and indicating the
points of the
horizon.

^c Latent heat; the natural 'heat extant in the
waters, in the
woods, and in all fixed and moveable things,
although not per-
ceptible to sense.

^d *Agni*, in the form of lightning, may be

considered as the
son of the waters collected in the clouds; and
those waters he
is said to generate by the oblations which he
conveys: as, in-the
Smṛiti, it is said,—"Oblations offered in fire ascend
to the sun:
rain is produced from the sun; corn, from rain j'and
thence spring
mankind."

* *Agni* is thought to rise, in the morning, in the
shape of the
sun from out of the ocean,—upastMt wmdrtd *